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ABSTRACT

This study sought to determine (1) the attendance of public librarians in government documents workshops, (2) the familiarity with and use of selection and reference tools, (3) the amount of money spent for the purchase of government publications, (4) the receipt of government publications from congressmen, and (5) if special courses in government documents have been studied. Questionnaires were sent to a random sample of libraries. Eighty-four of 100 questionnaires were returned, of these 81 were usable. The results show that of the 37 libraries which order government publications, 7 spend between $0 and $5 per year, 20 spend between $5 and $25, and 10 spend $50 or more. Forty-five librarians found government documents useful. The three publications most used were, in order, Yearbook of Agriculture, Zip Code Directory, and Selected Lists of United States Government Publications. Thirty-four librarians receive government publications from congressmen and 22 never receive them. Thirty-six librarians attended either workshops or classes on government publications. Data support the hypothesis that librarians who attend workshops and classes show greater expertise in the use of these reference tools, possess a greater familiarity with acquisition tools, and belong to libraries spending a higher amount for federal publication purchase. (DAG)

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GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

IN

KANSAS PUBLIC LIBRARIES

A Research Project

Presented to

the Department of Librarianship

The Emporia Kansas State College of Emporia

In Partial Fulfillment

of the Requirements for the Degree

Master of Librarianship

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by

Donald Batson

December, 1975

U S DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
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ABSTRACT

GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

IN

KANSAS PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Purposes of this study were to determine attendance of public librarians in government documents workshops, determine familiarity with and use of selection and reference tools, find the approximate amount of money spent for the purchase of government publications, determine the receipt of government publications from congressmen, and determine if special courses in government documents have been studied. The population for the study was a random sample of Kansas public libraries chosen to provide representation from each of the seven cooperating regions of Kansas in the summer terms of 1975. Eighty-four of one hundred questionnaires were returned, of which eighty-one were usable.

The following findings were obtained. Thirty-seven libraries order government publications. Seven spend between $0 and $5 each year for government documents, twenty spend between $5 and $25, and ten spend $50 or more annually for government publications. Forty-five librarians find government publications useful in their libraries. Yearbook of Agriculture was the reference publication receiving the most checks as having been used by librarians, while Zip Code Directory and Selected Lists of U. S. Government Publications ranked next. Thirty-four libraries receive government publications regularly from congressmen while twenty-two have never received them. The most popular method of payment for government documents listed was check.

Twenty-nine librarians have attended workshops held within the state of Kansas, and seven have studied government publications in class. Thirty-five librarians favor future workshops, while state documents is the subject receiving most requests.

Data from the returns support the hypotheses that public librarians who have attended workshops and classes in government publications will show a greater expertise in the use of reference tools than those who have not, that public librarians who have attended workshops and classes in government publications will possess a greater familiarity with acquisition tools than those who have not, and that there is a positive correlation between public librarians who have exerted effort to acquire knowledge through study in workshops and classes in government publications and the amount of money spent for the purchase of federal publications.

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CHAPTER I

BACKGROUND

The government of the United States stands as a giant in the publishing field. It produces more materials than any other government in the world, and it has no peer among private publishers in the United States in terms of variety of subjects on which material is presented and number of publications. Presented on levels that range from the uncomplicated to the highly technical, government publications are valuable assets to persons of all ages, all vocations, all levels of study, and all phases of society. "Taken as a whole, they constitute a great library covering almost every field of human knowledge and endeavor."[1]

With the huge amount of information that is available to the public, its use should certainly be encouraged. The librarian must serve as the medium that acquires the materials and relates them to the patron. Familiarity with acquisition and reference tools for government publications augments that ability; for, the librarian can make more and better selections, and the patron can explore additional avenues for solutions to problems and for attainment of new information. When the librarian provides suitable materials for the inquiring patron at an opportune moment, both are rewarded with a sense of satisfaction.

CHAPTER II

THE PROBLEM

The purpose of this study was to determine the patterns of acquisition of United States government publications by public libraries in the state of Kansas. Attempts were made to: (1) determine attendance of public librarians in government documents workshops; (2) determine familiarity with and use of selection and reference tools; (3) find the approximate amount of money spent for the purchase of government publications; (4) determine the receipt of government publications from congressmen; and (5) determine if special courses in government documents have been studied.

The hypotheses of this study include:

(1) Public librarians who have attended workshops and classes in government publications will show a greater expertise in the use of reference tools than those who have not.

(2) Public librarians who have attended workshops and classes in government publications will possess a greater familiarity with acquisition tools than those who have not.

(3) There is a positive correlation between public librarians who have exerted effort to acquire knowledge through study in workshops and classes in government publications and the amount of money spent for the purchase of federal publications.

The following terms used in this investigation should be defined:

Government publication. The definition of government publication used in this study is the definition stated in the Depository Act of 1962.

> The term "Government publication" as used in this act and the amendments made by it means informational matter which is published as an individual document at Government expense, or as required by law.[2]

Regional system of cooperating libraries. One of seven systems of cooperating public libraries, divided into seven geographical regions of the state of Kansas, which engages in cooperative efforts to promote better library service for its patrons.

Public Library. The definition used in this study is that which is stated in the A.L.A. Glossary of Library Terms.

> A Public Library. A library that serves free all residents of a community, district, or region, and receives its financial support, in whole or in part, from public funds.[3]

CHAPTER III

REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

In a speech delivered at a Conference on Government Publications, May 13, 1965, at the Graduate School of Library Science, Drexel Institute of Technology, Rae Elizabeth Rips discussed the value of government publications and the rewards to be realized by librarians who invest effort and interest in learning how to obtain and to utilize them.[4] Rips discussed the use of government publications in the average library: a small high school library, a branch of a large public library system, a small or medium-sized public library that is not organized into subject departments, and a small college library. The four keys to successful use of government publications, as she saw them, are knowledge of the government and its agencies, awareness of the vast variety and subject range of government publications, proper selection and acquisition of the publications, and location of the physical documents near the point of use in the library. Sources that the librarian of a non-depository library can use to select and acquire government publications are Price Lists, furnished by the Superintendent of Documents; Selected United States Government Publications; congressmen; and bureaux. Monthly Catalog was felt to be more valuable in a library for the bibliographical location of a particular document rather than as a selection tool, but knowledge of how to use and follow its instructions for ordering publications was felt to be important for every professional librarian to know. Feeling that being a librarian is fine, and being a documents librarian is even finer, Rips reserved the finest classification for the reference librarian who

knows enough about documents to appreciate them and to use them with the library's patrons.

The number of studies that have been conducted concerning government publications in public libraries is small. Little, too, is the research that has been completed about familiarity of public librarians with reference and acquisition tools for working with government publications.

James L. McCamy concluded an ambitious study of the public library and government publications with Government Publications for the Citizen, published in 1949.[5] Centering his attention on government publications as a means of communication between the government and its citizens, McCamy rested his assumptions on the premise that through the public library, a democratic society will provide for its citizens opportunities for personal development, enlightenment, and knowledge. The sample was composed of fifty-five libraries, varied enough in size, location, and services to provide a comprehensive source for data. Questionnaires, sent to each of the fifty-five libraries, were returned by forty-seven. He found that most libraries received some government publications from one or more government sources. that volume and variety varied directly with the size of the community served by the library, and that librarians showed a genuine interest in the use of government publications. Some librarians found them difficult to handle, however. Seventy-four per cent of those sampled, either on their own initiative or by participation in cooperative programs, promoted the use of federal government publications.

In 1964, Jeanne H. Mahler, considering the fact that no comparable recent effort had been made to determine the status of government publications in public libraries since the study by McCamy in 1949, concluded that a survey to determine present trends seemed advisable. Her study, "Selection and Reference Use in the Public Library," began in 1965.[6] Questionnaires were sent to public libraries in nine geographical areas of the United States, and within each of these areas to libraries serving cities of more than one hundred thousand population, cities of fifty thousand in each of three states. Forty-seven replies were received from eighty-one questionnaires. Twenty-one of the libraries replying were federal depositories while twenty-five were not. Most of the libraries responding received government publications. Of selection aids listed on the questionnaire, the most frequently used tool was the Monthly Catalog of U. S. Publications with thirty-two checks. Selected United States Government Publications was second with twenty-eight checks. Price Lists were noted twenty times. Twenty-two libraries wished for more government publications, while five wished for fewer. Nine librarians stated that staff members working with reference questions in government publications had taken a course in government documents, while seven reported having staff members with special experience. Responses to reference tools were as follows: Congressional Directory, forty-one checks: Monthly Catalog of U. S. Government Publications, forty checks; Municipal Yearbook, thirty-six checks; and Book of the States, thirty-two checks.

In 1961, Marjorie Ford submitted "The Use of Federal Government Publications in the Independent Municipal Libraries (7,501-25,000 Population) of Southern California," a thesis for the School of Library Science,

Immaculate Heart College.[7] The study was conducted to investigate how effectively specific public libraries of Southern California made use of federal government publications that were available to them. Personal interviews were conducted with the head librarian and/or the librarian in charge of federal government publications in twenty-four different libraries. Records of acquisition were studied, collections were noted, specific files were examined, and various incidental problems were discussed. Of the libraries questioned, fifty-four percent found federal government publications in their collections useful. Fifteen of the twenty-four librarians handling government documents indicated that they had not had special training in government publications. Of the remaining nine librarians, four had experienced special training in government publications, two had taken advantage of on the job training, and three had attended workshops in government publications. Half of the surveyed librarians ordered all of their federal documents from the Superintendent of Documents, six received government publications from congressmen, and six ordered government publications from the Superintendent of Documents and other government agencies. For acquisitions, twelve of the libraries used Monthly Catalog of U. S. Publications, eighteen made use of Selected United States Government Publications, and four used Price Lists.

In 1962, Joe Curtis Rees completed "The Use of United States Publications in North Carolina's Sixteen Largest Public Library Systems," a thesis submitted to the School of Library Science, University of North Carolina.[8] Limiting his research to North Carolina public library systems with more than fifty thousand volumes, Rees conducted personal interviews with librarians in each of the sixteen largest public libraries

to determine to what extent librarians were acquiring government publications and making them available to the public. Only six of the librarians interviewed ordered government publications regularly. Twelve of the libraries used the Selected United States Government Publications as a major tool for selection, six made use of the Monthly Catalog of U. S. Publications, four selected from the Government Printing Office circulars, and two selected from the Price Lists of the Government Printing Office. Limitations felt most important to acquisition and use of government publications were time and number of personnel by fourteen librarians, space by twelve librarians, training of personnel by eleven librarians, lack of an adequate subject index to government publications by nine librarians, and lack of patron interest by eight librarians. Suggestions for promoting more effective use of government publications were the preparation of a simplified manual for use of government publications in public libraries by fourteen librarians: state or regional workshops on the use of government publications in public libraries by eleven librarians, four answering to the affirmative with reservation: and a monthly or otherwise frequent and regular list of government publications suitable for public library use by all sixteen librarians.

Laura Rucker and Mary Meinders published "Government Publications in Oklahoma Public Libraries," research performed at the School of Library Science, University of Oklahoma, in 1966.[9] The study was an attempt to ascertain the distribution, method of acquisition, and use of federal government publications in Oklahoma public libraries. Questionnaires were mailed to one hundred thirteen libraries in Oklahoma. Ninety-three replies were received: one indicating that it

had closed. Thirty-eight percent of the responding libraries regularly received U. S. government publications. Twenty-two percent of the librarians indicated they used the Selected List of U. S. Government Publications, eleven percent of the libraries used the Monthly Catalog of U. S. Publications, and ten percent used the Price Lists. Thirty-four percent of the libraries purchased some government publications, forty-two percent received them as gifts from their congressmen, twenty-four percent received government publications as gifts from issuing agencies, and four percent received them as gifts from other sources. Selections most often acquired were Agriculture Yearbook by forty-eight libraries, Congressional Directory by thirty libraries, U. S. Statistical Abstracts by seven libraries, Infant Care by seven libraries, U. S. Government Organization Manual by thirteen libraries, and Educational Directory by eight libraries. Of the ninety-two libraries supplying responses, sixty-seven had annual incomes of more than $50,000, twenty had incomes of between $10,000 and $50,000 annually, and five had annual incomes of less than $10,000.

Bernard Fry, in developing A Research Design for a Comprehensive Study of the Use, Bibliographic Control, and Distribution of Government Publications, declared that government publications pose pressing problems to which solutions are needed.[10] Large-scale wastes of time, money, and energy exist because information that is available in government publications is not used. Librarians tend to be mainly concerned with the immediate and pressing problems of coping with local administration of their document collections rather than with the broader issues of full access to government publications. Recommendations include that a comprehensive study of the use, bibliographic control and

distribution of government publications be conducted. The study project should add and maintain a system-as-a-whole viewpoint and approach toward government publications; the study should include consideration on innovative techniques having present, near-present, or near-term potential bearing on the objects of its concern; the study group should employ what data collection methods are deemed necessary and suitable in order to develop an adequate data base with emphasis on correspondence, questionnaires, interviews, and on-site visits; the detailed listing of questionnaires and interviews should be adopted for planning purposes and as initial guidance for the study project; the study group should have recourse to competent consultants to help address the implications of its findings; the study groups should develop and maintain liaison with major organizations and agencies that have basic interest in the control and/or distribution of government publications; the study should be planned and scheduled for accomplishment in system identification, main data collection and analysis, and recommendations; the principal product of the study should be a final report presenting system design specifications and other recommendations necessary to actually implement a practicable system for the bibliographic control and distribution of government publications; and the study should be funded in the range of $340,000 for a period of about twenty-one months for maximum effectiveness, with staff size varying during the project from four to eight persons. The recommendations of the research design remain to be carried out.

The general conclusions of all the studies seem to indicate that more research needs to be conducted on the subject of government publications in public libraries. Measures also need to be taken to promote

the use of government publications and the preparation of public librarians to work with them.

CHAPTER IV

RESEARCH DESIGN

Two recent series of government publications workshops have been conducted in Kansas. The first series, conducted by the Personnel Development Program of the Kansas Library Association was held in ten locations throughout Kansas in 1972-73 for the benefit of public librarians. This program was designed to introduce people to United States government publications and tools, including the Monthly Catalog of U. S. Publications, Price Lists, and Selected United States Publications. More recent workshop activity sponsored by the Kansas State Library has emphasized the use of the Monthly Catalog of U. S. Publications for locating documents and utilizing the depository of the Kansas State Library, Topeka, Kansas, to provide publications of interest to patrons.

The population for this investigation was comprised of librarians working in public libraries of the seven regional systems of cooperating libraries in the state of Kansas. School-public libraries, public libraries designated as depositories, and system headquarters libraries were deleted as unrepresentative. School-public libraries receive most of their funds from school districts and serve as school libraries the majority of time. Expenditures in school-public libraries are primarily concerned with supporting the school curriculum. Depositories receive federal publications without charge and do not allow a comparison to be made between the amount of preparation of personnel and the amount of money spent for the purchase of government publications. System headquarters libraries serve in supporting roles for the purchasing and cataloging of materials for entire systems. Expenditures for a

headquarters are more representative of an entire system than for an individual library. Hutchinson Public Library, a regional depository and system headquarters library; school-public libraries located in St. John, Ellinwood, and Kansas City, Kansas; and Great Bend Public Library, Manhattan Public Library, Johnson County Library, Sheridan County Library, Iola Free Public Library, and Dodge City Public Library, all headquarters libraries, were not included in the study.

A random sample of one hundred public libraries chosen from the seven regional systems in Kansas comprised the final sample of the inquiry. Further division placed the samples into three distinct groups: libraries with annual budgets of less than $10,000, libraries with budgets that range from $10,000 to $50,000 annually, and libraries with annual budgets of more than $50,000.

The questionnaire (see appendix) method was used to gather data. To both gain information about the questionnaire and inform regional headquarters librarians about the study of government publications in Kansas public libraries, pretests were sent to each headquarters library of the seven cooperating regions of Kansas with a request for comments for improvements. Personnel in headquarters libraries were professionals who were able to determine what questions could be answered by the librarians whom they support. Suggestions were noted, and changes to enhance use of the questionnaires were implemented. The questionnaires were then mailed to all of the one hundred public libraries chosen at random. Sampling was taken from a list of all representative libraries in the state regional systems with random numbers being used to choose the sample.

To test the hypothesis that public librarians who have attended workshops and classes in government publications will show a greater expertise in the use of reference tools than those who have not, questions eight and nine were provided to determine attendance in workshops and/or classes, questions four and five were provided to determine which publications were used, and question number three was provided to obtain librarians' opinions about the usefulness of government publications in their particular libraries.

To test the hypothesis that public librarians who have attended workshops and classes in government publications will possess greater familiarity with acquisition tools than public librarians who have not, questions eight and nine were provided to determine workshop and/or class attendance, questions four and five were provided to determine receipt of government publications from congressmen, and question seven was provided to determine method of payment.

To test the hypothesis that there is a positive correlation between public librarians who have exerted effort to acquire knowledge through study in documents workshops and classes and the amount of money spent for the purchase of government publications, question two was provided to determine the amount of money spent for the purchase of government publications, and questions eight and nine were provided to determine the attendance in workshops and/or classes in government publications.

Question one was provided to determine the name and location of the library responding to the questionnaire, and question ten was provided to determine the need and topics for more government workshops in the state of Kansas.

CHAPTER V

IMPORTANCE OF THE STUDY

Limitations. The principal limitations of the study centered upon the reactions of respondents to the questionnaire. Some librarians within the limited sample of one hundred libraries were unwilling to answer the questions. This may have resulted in the failure to determine a particular characteristic that should have been identified. Others may have felt threatened and did not answer all questions or failed to respond with frank, honest answers. This may have resulted in failure to receive complete, accurate information to be applied to the hypotheses. Due to the in-house routing of the questionnaire, especially in large public libraries, the librarian who could have supplied the most efficient answers as they relate to the study may not have been the one to do so. This may have resulted in failure to receive responses from librarians who work primarily with government publications.

Justification. This study offers several areas of significance. Since there have been very few studies completed in this area, the results can be used for comparative studies completed in other states or other regions of the United States. Should a complete national study be made on the use of government publications in public libraries, the results of this study can be compared with the national findings. Similar data that apply to the preparation of public librarians for work with government publications can be compared to determine strengths and weaknesses. Findings can be helpful in structuring a program of continuing education for public librarians in the field of government publications. Information can also be compared with unpublished data from the government publications workshops conducted by the Personnel Development Program

of the Kansas Library Association to determine improvement or non-improvement of librarians in preparation for work with government publications.

Knowledge gained can be used for comparing strengths and weaknesses of public libraries within the state, can provide a foundation for the need to conduct more workshops through the state, note changes that need to be made in subjects of workshops, and aid in providing workshops that librarians feel they need. The workshops should introduce knowledge of government publications and tools for working with them to public librarians who have little or no training and should provide valuable reviews for those who have exerted effort in learning about them in the past.

CHAPTER VI

RESULTS OF THE STUDY

The final random sample of public libraries was chosen to provide representation from each public library system of the state. Eighteen libraries, or forty percent of the forty-one libraries within the Central Cooperating Region; thirteen, or thirty-nine percent of the thirty-nine libraries within the North Central Cooperating Region; thirteen, or thirty-eight percent of the thirty-four libraries within the Northeast Library Cooperating Region; six, or thirty-three percent of the libraries within the Northwest Cooperating Region; twenty-three, or thirty-seven percent of the sixty-one libraries of the South Central Cooperating Region; eighteen, or thirty-five percent of the fifty-one libraries of the Southeast Region; and nine, or forty-two percent of the twenty-one libraries of the Southwest Region, comprise the one hundred public libraries included in the study.

Table 1a

The Sample

Regional	C	NC	NE	NW	SC	SE	SW	Total
Number of questionnaires mailed	18	13	13	6	23	18	9	100%
Number of questionnaires returned	15	11	13	5	21	12	7	84%
Number of usable questionnaires returned	14	11	13	4	20	12	7	81%

Questionnaires, accompanied by a cover letter dated June 23, 1975, were mailed to each library with a request for returns to be made by July 7, 1975. A followup questionnaire with a cover letter dated July 21, 1975, was mailed to each library from which a reply had not been received. Returns were requested by August 4, 1975. The total number of returned questionnaires was eighty-four percent, of which eighty-one percent was usable.

Fifty-nine of the libraries responding to the questionnaire have budgets of between $0 and $10,000; fourteen responding libraries have budgets of between $10,000 and $50,000; and eighteen responding libraries have budgets greater than $50,000.

Table 1b

Responses by Budgets

Regional	C	NC	NE	NW	SC	SE	SW	Total
$0 - $10,000	9	9	9	4	13	10	5	59
$10,000 - $50,000	4	0	2	0	4	2	2	14
$50,000 -	1	2	2	0	3	0	0	18
Total	14	11	13	4	20	12	7	81

Librarians with the seven Kansas library systems were asked if they order government publications. Thirty-seven librarians order government documents. Forty-four librarians do not order them. Seven libraries spend less than $5.00 annually for government publications, twenty libraries have expenditures of between $5.00 and $25.00 per year, and ten libraries spend more than $50.00 yearly for government publications.

Table 2a

Ordering of Government Publications

Question	Yes	No	$0 - $5	$5 - $25	$50 or more
Central	9	5	2	3	4
North Central	5	6	1	2	2
Northeast	6	7	1	4	1
Northwest	1	3	1	0	0
South Central	9	11	1	6	2
Southeast	3	9	0	3	0
Southwest	4	3	1	2	1
Total	37	44	7	20	10

Tables 2b, 2c, and 2d show the relationship between budget size and the amount spent for government documents. In the libraries with annual budgets of between $0 and $10,000, seven spend less than $5.00 annually for government publications, twelve spend between $5.00 and $25.00, and one library has an annual expenditure of more than $50.00 each year for government publications.

Table 2b

Orders by Budget

$0 - $10,000	C	NC	NE	NW	SC	SE	SW	Total
$0 - $5	2	1	1	1	1	0	1	7
$5 - $25	2	2	2	0	3	1	2	12
$50 or more	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1

In the libraries with yearly budgets of between $10,000 and $50,000, no library spends less than $5.00 each year for government publications, six libraries have expenditures of between $5.00 and $25.00, and three libraries spend more than $50.00 annually for government documents.

Table 2c

Orders by Budget

$10,000 - $50,000	C	NC	NE	NW	SC	SE	SW	Total
$0 - $5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
$5 - $25	1	0	1	0	2	2	0	6
$50 or more	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	3

No libraries with annual budgets of more than $50,000 spend less than $5.00 each year for government documents. Two libraries have annual expenditures of between $5.00 and $25.00, and six libraries have expenditures of more than $50.00 each year for government publications.

Table 2d

Orders by Budget

$50,000 or more	C	NC	NE	NW	SC	SE	SW	Total
$0 - $5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
$5 - $25	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	2
$50 or more	1	2	1	0	2	0	0	6

Table 3 refers to the usefulness of government publications in individual libraries. Sixty-eight librarians responded. Forty-five respondents feel that government publications are useful in their libraries, while twenty-three librarians feel that government documents are not useful. It is interesting to note that more librarians feel that government publications are useful than order them.

Table 3

Usefulness of government publications

Question	Yes	No
Central	10	4
North Central	6	4
Northeast	7	4
Northwest	1	2
South Central	10	5
Southeast	7	2
Southwest	4	2
Total	45	23

Table 4, designed to illustrate familiarity of librarians with several useful titles, shows the publication checked as having been used by more librarians than any other is the Yearbook of Agriculture, which received thirty-eight checks. Zip Code Directory and Selected Lists of U. S. Government Publications received twenty-seven checks, Statistical Abstract received twenty-five checks, Home and Garden Bulletins received twenty-four checks, Occupational Outlook Handbook and Congressional Directory received twenty-one checks, U. S. Government

Manual received eighteen checks, Congressional Record received sixteen checks, Monthly Catalog received ten checks, and Farmers Bulletins received nine checks. Although numerous titles were listed as being useful by librarians in seven regionals, the County City Data Book, receiving two checks, was the only one listed in more than one instance. Sixty-two librarians responded to this question.

Table 4

Publications Used

Publication title	Number of librarians familiar
Statistical Abstract	25
Congressional Record	16
Congressional Directory	21
U. S. Government Manual	18
Farmers Bulletins	9
Home and Garden Bulletins	24
Occupational Outlook Handbook	21
Yearbook of Agriculture	38
Zip Code Directory	27
Monthly Catalog	10
Selected Lists of U. S. Government Publications	27
County City Data Book	2

Table 5 presents details of receipt of government publications from congressmen. Of the seventy-five libraries which responded,

thirty-four currently receive government publications from their congressmen, while forty-one do not. Of the thirty-four libraries which receive government publications from congressmen, nineteen receive them regularly. Fifteen libraries do not. Of the forty-one libraries which do not receive government publications, nineteen have received them previously, while twenty-two have never received government documents.

Table 5

Receipt from Congressmen

Receipt	Currently Receive		Regularly		Ever	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Central	4	9	3	1	6	3
North Central	3	7	2	1	2	5
Northeast	7	4	4	3	1	3
Northwest	3	1	1	2	0	1
South Central	8	11	4	4	7	4
Southeast	6	6	4	2	3	3
Southwest	3	3	1	2	0	3
Total	34	41	19	15	19	22

The methods of payment used for the purchase of government publications are referred to in Table 6. One library makes use of coupons, two libraries prefer to use purchase orders, five libraries use deposit accounts, twenty-three libraries pay with checks, one library uses money orders, and five libraries use other methods.

Table 6

Methods of Payment

Regional	C	NC	NE	NW	SC	SE	SW	Total
Coupons	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Purchase Order	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
Deposit Account	0	1	1	0	2	0	1	5
Check	8	0	4	1	6	3	1	23
Money Order	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Other	1	1	0	0	1	0	2	5

Twenty-nine librarians who responded to the questionnaire indicated attendance at workshops held within the state of Kansas. One librarian has attended a similar workshop held in another state. Of the twenty-nine librarians who have attended workshops, twenty-two have attended one series and seven have attended two. Fifty librarians have not attended any of the workshops held within the state.

Seven librarians within the cooperating regionals have studied government publications in class. Seventy-four librarians have not participated in a special course in government publications.

Table 7 contains data concerned with future workshops and proposed or suggested topics to be discussed. Of the fifty-eight responses, thirty-five librarians are in favor of more workshops being held. Twenty-four prefer workshops to be on the subject of state documents, nineteen favor United States publications, and one librarian prefers a workshop on local documents. Twenty-three librarians do not feel there is a need for more workshops.

Table 7

Future Workshops

Question	Yes	No	State	U. S.	Local
Central	8	3	5	4	0
North Central	6	1	5	3	1
Northeast	4	4	1	4	0
Northwest	2	1	1	2	0
South Central	8	7	6	5	0
Southeast	4	3	4	3	0
Southwest	3	4	2	1	0
Total	35	23	24	19	1

Data appear to support the hypothesis that public librarians who have attended workshops and classes in government publications will show a greater expertise in the use of reference tools than those who have not. Of the thirty-two librarians who have attended workshops or special classes in government publications, twenty-two, or sixty-nine percent, find government publications useful in their libraries and recorded one hundred twenty-nine checks for publications which they have used. Of the forty-nine librarians who have attended neither workshops or classes in government publications, twenty-three, or forty-seven percent, find government documents useful in their libraries and recorded one hundred five checks for publications which they have used.

The data received appear to support the hypothesis that public librarians who have attended workshops and classes in government

publications will possess a greater familiarity with acquisition tools than those who have not. Of the thirty-two librarians who have attended workshops or special classes in government publications, seven, or twenty-two percent, have used Monthly Catalog, and nineteen, or fifty-seven percent, have used Selected Lists of U. S. Government Publications. Of the forty-nine librarians who have not attended workshops or special courses in government publications, three, or six percent, have used Monthly Catalog, while ten, or twenty percent, have used Selected Lists of U. S. Government Publications. Nine, or twenty-eight percent, of the thirty-two librarians who have attended workshops or special classes in government publications receive government documents regularly from congressmen. Ten, or twenty-two percent, of the forty-nine librarians who have not attended workshops or special courses in government publications receive them regularly. Twenty librarians who have attended workshops or special courses in government publications provided responses to method of payment. Of the twenty librarians, four, or twenty percent, have deposit accounts; two, or ten percent, pay with coupons; one, or five percent, listed other; and thirteen, or sixty-five percent, pay by check. Fourteen librarians who have not attended workshops or special courses in government publications provided responses to method of payment. Of the fourteen librarians, one, or seven percent, uses purchase orders; one, or seven percent, uses money orders; one, or seven percent, uses a deposit account; one, or seven percent, listed other; and ten, or seventy-two percent, pay by check.

Data appear to support the hypothesis that there is a positive correlation between public librarians who have exerted effort to

acquire knowledge through study in workshops and classes in government publications and the amount of money spent for the purchase of federal publications. Of librarians attending workshops or special classes on government publications, two, or eleven percent, of the nineteen librarians with budgets of between $0 and $10,000 spend less than $5.00 annually for government documents: five, or twenty-six percent, spend between $5.00 and $25.00 each year; and one, or five percent, spends more than $50.00 yearly for government publications. Of the librarians who have attended neither workshops nor special classes on government publications, seven, or eighteen percent, of the forty librarians with budgets of between $0 and $10,000 spend less than $5.00 annually for government documents; five, or thirteen percent, spend between $5.00 and $25.00 each year; and no librarians spend more than $50.00 annually for government publications. Of librarians attending workshops or special classes on government publications, none of the eight librarians with budgets of between $10,000 and $50,000 spends less than $5.00 annually for government publications: four, or fifty percent, spend between $5.00 and $25.00 each year; and three, or thirty percent, spend more than $50.00 yearly for government documents. Of librarians who have attended neither workshops nor special classes on government publications, none of the six librarians with budgets between $10,000 and $50,000 spends less than $5.00 each year for government publications; two, or thirty-three percent, spend between $5.00 and $25.00 annually, and no librarians spend more than $50.00 yearly for government documents. Of librarians who have attended workshops or special courses on government publications, none of the five librarians with budgets of more than $50,000 spend less

than $5.00 each year for government publications: one, or twenty percent, spends between $5.00 and $25.00 yearly; and four, or eighty percent, spend more than $50.00 annually for government publications. Of librarians who have attended neither workshops nor special classes on government publications, none of the three librarians with budgets of more than $50,000 spends less than $5.00 each year for government documents; one librarian, or thirty-three percent, spends between $5.00 and $25.00 yearly; and one, or thirty-three percent, spends more than $50.00 annually for government publications.

CHAPTER VII

SUMMARY

A random sample of one hundred public libraries, chosen to provide representation from each Kansas cooperating region, was used to test the hypotheses that public librarians who have attended workshops and classes in government publications will show a greater expertise in the use of reference tools than those who have not, that public librarians who have attended workshops and classes in government publications will possess a greater familiarity with acquisition tools than those who have not, and that there is a positive correlation between public librarians who have exerted effort to acquire knowledge through study in workshops and classes in government publications and the amount of money spent for the purchase of federal publications. Of eighty-four returns, eighty-four were usable in the study. Data from the returns support the hypotheses.

Results of the study point out that while past workshops held throughout the state have been beneficial, there is a continued need for futher workshops and classes to be conducted for the study of government publications. Responses indicate that a particular need exists for workshops to be conducted for the study of state documents.

CHAPTER VIII

SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER STUDIES

Further study of government publications in public libraries could well be carried out in another state, either on an original basis or by a replication of this study. Comparison of data could be used to determine if needs in other areas are similar and if benefits of past continuing education concerned with government publications have been beneficial.

While this study has been concerned with the preparation of public librarians for working with government publications and has sought to determine needs to be met with future workshops and classes, it has not attempted to determine how public librarians who order government publications organize and service them. This area offers opportunity for study either by using questionnaires, interviews, or on-site visitations or by combinations of questionnaires, interviews, and/or on-site visitations to determine methods of service and bibliographic control.

FOOTNOTES

[1]Laurence F. Schmeckebier and Roy B. Eastin, Government Publications and Their Use (Washington, D. C.: Brookings Institute, 1961), p. 1.

[2]U. S., Statutes at Large, 78: 353.

[3]Elizabeth H. Thompson, comp., A.L.A. Glossary of Library Terms, with a Selection of Terms in Related Fields (Chicago, American Library Association, 1943), p. 108.

[4]Rae Elizabeth Rips, "The Reference Use of Government Publications," Drexal Library Quarterly, 1: 3-15, October, 1965.

[5]James Lucian McCamy, Government Publications for the Citizen (New York: Columbia University Press, 1949).

[6]Jeanne H. Mahler, "Selection and Reference Use in the Public Library," Library Trends, 15: 93-106, July, 1966.

[7]Marjorie Ford, "The Use of Federal Government Publications in the Independent Municipal Libraries (7,501-25,000 Population) of Southern California," (unpublished Master's thesis, Immaculate Heart College, 1961).

[8]Joe Curtis Rees, "The Use of United States Publications in North Carolina's Sixteen Largest Public Library Systems," (unpublished Master's thesis, University of North Carolina, 1962).

[9]Laura Rucker and Mary Meinders, "Government Publications in Oklahoma Public Libraries," Oklahoma Librarian, 16: 80-82, July, 1966.

[10]Bernard M. Fry and others, A Research Design for a Comprehensive Study of the Use, Bibliographic Control, and Distribution of Government Publications (Washington, D. C.: U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Education Resources Information Center, 1970).

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U. S. Statutes at Large, 76: 353.

APPENDIXES

APPENDIX A

June 23, 1975

As a graduate student in the School of Library Science, Emporia Kansas State College, Emporia, Kansas, I am conducting a research study on government publications in public libraries of Kansas. One hundred public libraries, chosen from a random sample within the seven cooperating regionals in the state, will be included in this study. All information will be kept confidential, and names of individual libraries will not be referred to in the analysis of the data.

Results of the study will be applied to an evaluation of past workshops on government publications and the need for future workshops to be conducted for public libraries in the state.

I would appreciate your filling out this questionnaire and returning it in the enclosed envelope by July 7, 1975. Approximately ten minutes should be required to complete the questions.

Coding that appears on the questionnaire is included to ascertain what follow-up will be necessary.

Results of the study will be available by interlibrary loan from the School of Library Science, Emporia Kansas State College, Emporia, Kansas 66801.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Very truly yours,

Donald Batson

APPENDIX B

July 21, 1975

On June 23, 1975, I sent out questionnaires relating to my research study of government publications in public libraries of Kansas. No response has been received from your library.

I would like to include your library in the research. Would you please fill in your responses to both sides of the enclosed questionnaire and return it by August 4, 1975?

Very truly yours,

Donald Batson

APPENDIX C

SURVEY OF GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS IN KANSAS PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Directions for completing questionnaire:

(1) Answer the question by placing an 'x' in the blank or by filling in responses.

(2) No one else will see your responses except the person conducting the questionnaire.

QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Library_____Location_____, KS.

2. Do you currently order federal government publications for your library? ___YES ___NO

   If yes, approximately what is the amount spent per year on government publications? ___Less than $5.00 ___$5.00-$25.00 ___Over $50.00

3. Do you think that government publications have been useful in your library? ___YES ___NO

4. Which of the following publications have you used?

   ___Statistical Abstract
   ___Congressional Record
   ___Congressional Directory
   ___U. S. Government Manual
   ___Farmers Bulletin
   ___Home and Garden Bulletins
   ___Occupational Outlook Handbook
   ___Yearbook of Agriculture
   ___Zip Code Directory
   ___Monthly Catalog
   ___Selected Lists of U. S. Government Publications

5. If you have used other government publications which have been of value in your library, please list those most useful by title.

_____

_____

_____

6. Do you currently receive any government publications from your congressman? ____YES ____NO

   If yes, do you receive them regularly? ____YES ____NO

   If no, have you ever received them from your congressman?

   ____YES ____NO

7. If you currently order federal government publications for your library, what is your method of payment?

   ____Coupons ____Check

   ____Purchase order ____Deposit account

   ____Other ____Money order

8. Have you attended any of the two series of government publications workshops held in Kansas? ____YES ____NO

   If yes, how many have you attended? ____Two ____One

9. Have you studied government publications in a special course?

   ____YES ____NO

10. Do you feel there is a need for more government publications workshops to be held throughout the state of Kansas?

    ____YES ____NO

    If yes, on what topics would you prefer the workshops to be?

    ____State Documents ____U. S. Government Publications

    Other_____

RESPONSES TO THIS QUESTIONNAIRE MADE BY_____

Comments: